



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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**MERRITT ISLAND MAN INDICTED FOR STEALING
AND SELLING NASA PROPERTY**

ORLANDO - United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced the indictment of MICHAEL JOSEPH SCHADO, age 56, of Merritt Island, Florida, charging him with stealing government property and selling stolen government property. SCHADO is alleged to have stolen photography equipment from the Kennedy Space Center. Each count carries a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years, a fine of \$250,000.00, a term of supervised release of three years, and a special assessment of \$100.00. SCHADO was arrested this morning and will make his initial appearance at 11:00 am today before United States Magistrate Judge Karla R. Spaulding in Orlando Federal Court.

The indictment alleges SCHADO worked as an engineer for Dynacs, Incorporated, and Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, Aerospace Division, which are subcontractors at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ("NASA") John F. Kennedy Space Center ("Kennedy Space Center") in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The indictment further

alleges that during his employment with those companies, NASA granted SCHADO access to secured and unsecured areas at the Kennedy Space Center to perform his engineering responsibilities. In addition, the indictment alleges that SCHADO used this access to pilfer NASA property and sell it to others outside of Florida.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the NASA Office of the Inspector General, and the NASA Office of Security and Protective Services. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Vincent A. Citro.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed in violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.